



# Mt. Charleston Town Advisory Board



## **MINUTES** **MT. CHARLESTON TOWN ADVISORY BOARD**

*Thursday, January 27, 2010*

**Members Present:** Becky Grismanauskas, Vice-Chair, Pat Fitzgibbons, Curtis Alexander, Michael McGroarty, George Togliatti

**Members absent:** None

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was posted in conformance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Town Board members, County, State, Federal Government representatives, Public Utilities and Public Services representatives introduced themselves.

### **ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS**

The agenda for January 27, 2011 was approved.

The minutes for January 13, 2011 were not approved. Becky Grismanauskas asked to have more details put into the minutes.

The By- Laws for 2011- 2013 were approved in a 4 – 1 vote. Becky Grismanauskas was opposed.

Becky Grismanauskas asked that Metro, NDF, and Clark Co. Fire be heard before the Audubon Society. All were in favor.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

### **COMMUNITY CONCERNS**

Sgt. Fricker reported that Metro, NHP, NDF, and NDOT have met to try and figure out how to change the traffic issues. Sgt. Fricker read into the minutes from NRS484B.450, Stopping, standing or parking prohibited in specified places. Sub-section 4 reads; A local authority may place official traffic-control devices prohibiting or restricting the stopping, standing or parking of vehicles on any highway where in its opinion stopping, standing or parking is dangerous to those using the highway or where the vehicles

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which are stopping, standing or parking would unduly interfere with the free movement of traffic. It is unlawful for any person to stop, stand or park any vehicle in violation of the restrictions stated on those devices.

Sgt. Fricker stated that Mary Martini (NDOT) has given permission for the no parking law and is having NDOT's engineering department draft new NO Parking signs. Dean Mosier and Darrin Reimer are in agreement with this plan. The State is also in agreement with this plan.

Metro and NHP have the full support from NDOT to implement this law next year. Metro is going to limit the parking on the state roads in Mt. Charleston. There will be no parking on the 157 from the 158 to the Mt. Charleston Lodge and on state route 156 from the Meadows to the ski resort and by the fire station located in Lee Canyon. All agencies would like the Town Board's support.

Jorge Gonzalez (NDF) stated that Education, Enforcement, and Engineering are critical. If any one agency goes away it will be unacceptable. USFS is not addressing the issues and they need the Board's support to implement this law.

Mike Johnson (Clark Co. Fire) stated that Jorge Gonzalez, Dave Marin (VDF), Sgt. Fricker have been pushing and accomplishing great efforts to get the traffic problem under control.

Jorge Gonzalez added that the parking restrictions will be just along the roads.

Jorge Gonzales also stated that the Governor has proposed to do away with the NDF fire stations on Mt. Charleston in 2012 and transfer them to Wild Fire Suppression Agency, and in 2014 to completely dissolve the NDF Fire District. NDF is the only 24 hour manned response on Mt. Charleston. NDF is a 2 person and Engine that are year round and all that comes with it. If the Governor proposes to get rid of the station it will be a very devastating thing for Mt. Charleston. Nineteen positions will be eliminated along with the Deputy and Regional Forester's position. In the same proposed budget NDF was granted 2 new engines. The money came from a one-time state allocated fund. NDF was never consulted about this decision nor were the County Commissioners or Mt. Charleston Town Board. The Governor is also proposing to do away with Parole and Probation pre-sentencing writing positions and there are probably even more issues out there.

Mike Johnson stated that no one consulted Clark Co. Fire about this decision and Clark Co. Fire does not agree with this decision. Mike Johnson's stance is to wait and see if this proposal makes it thru Legislature. Then a study will be done to see exactly what the benefits of shutting down the station are. He believes it is more of a benefit for Mt. Charleston to keep the station open and as is. No one wins if this proposal goes thru. Mike Johnson also asked if he could talk to or meet with our lobbyist, Sabra Newby-Smith, and have her put it on her agenda. We want to keep what we have and need to put together a strategy to make sure we don't lose NDF.

Dave Martin- New Chief for VDF, say that the cooperation between the NDF and the VDF is goes beyond just running calls together. NDF spends a lot of time to train and come up with life saving strategies. He also stated "How can this save money?" Clark Co. Fire does not have the funds to man a station on Mt. Charleston.

Steve Brittingham with NDF stated there is a great concern over the closure of the NDF station. You have a golden hour to respond and treat a patient. That is a very limited time to work with. If they do

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close NDF your looking at a 45 minute or more response time from stations in town. This will also affect the homeowners on the mountain. Their homeowner's insurance will go up. Most of NDFs funding comes from Clark County. The only benefit he can see is that the Governor's office will be able to show that they cut x% of employees.

Pat Fitzgibbons stated that Steve has lived in Lee Canyon and worked for NDF for 20 years, and is a great asset to the community.

Becky Grismanauskas stated that the Visitor Impact Task Force is having a meeting on January 31, 2011 at 2pm and would like Chris Munhall to attend and bring whatever they need to start actions to keep NDF on the mountain. Mt. Charleston is very fortunate to have NDF and the VDF. We are a Fire Protection District by Statute and the Governor cannot just throw that away.

Curtis Alexander stated that NDF has the full support of the board. This is the same as any other community concern and we have a voice.

Bob Wilken and Marilyn Mackett from the Red Rock Audubon Society came to share their completed birding brochure which was funded by the Mt. Charleston License Plate Fund. Two years ago the Society received a \$14000 plus grant to create new birding brochures and postcards. The brochure will be free, selling the postcards and doing educational presentations. Carolyn Titus created the bird list. Bob Loudon with USFS will be assisting the society with their educational presentations. The Audubon Society will be looking into getting another grant from the Mt. Charleston License Plate fund.

Bob Wilken stated that the Red Rock Audubon Society meets at the back of NV Energy building at Jones and Sahara. They now have 1045 members and wish to double their numbers. The Red Rock Audubon Society is interested in what they can do the Mt. Charleston community.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**Nevada Fire Safe Council** – Tom Padden reported that June is Pine Needle pick-up, prior to that they are going to have a chipper out to chip all the downed trees. It is also time to renew your Fire Safe Council membership

**Visitors Impact Task Force** – There will be a meeting on January 31, 2011 at the library. Irene Navis will not be able to attend but Sgt. Fricker (Metro) and Jorge Gonzalez (NDF) will be in attendance.

**Nevada Division of Forestry** – There are going to be controlled burns in Lee Canyon and Lady of the snow over the next few weeks. The stop light is operational now. Last winter break (2009) there was 39 calls. In 2010 winter break there were only 20 calls. Limited parking has helped to run calls faster. Mike Johnson concurred.

**United States Forest Service** – No report

**Clark County Fire Dept.** – We want to keep what we have with NDF and need to put together a strategy to make sure we don't lose NDF. No other updates.

**Mt. Charleston Volunteer Fire Dept.** – Dave Martin, the new VDF Chief is a 16 year resident on Mt. Charleston. Luke Ham and one other person have completed their paramedic training. The VDF is going to be selling decals. The purpose of the decals are to help raise money and to use as identification.

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There are going to be three types of decals- supporters, residents, and volunteers. You can go to [www.Mt.CharlestonVDF.com](http://www.Mt.CharlestonVDF.com) for more info.

**Las Vegas Valley Water District – Jordan Bunker** reported that the water condition is back to sustainable. LVVWD has set a meeting for March 15<sup>th</sup> at the Government Center for the water rates.

**Clark County Administrative Services** – Chris Munhall reported the boards annual training is February 5, 2011 at 8am. The Commissioners are very aware of the proposal to close NDF station and have taken a keen interest. Commissioner Brown is meeting with the owners of the Gypsum mine off of lower Harris Springs Road. They want to start mining operations again and this is going to be revisited. Commissioner Brown taped a show on Cox channel 4 about Lee Canyon Meadows and Mt. Charleston.

**Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Dept.** – Sgt. Eric Fricker reported, had 1 breaking and entering. Officer Al Gibson received an award for saving an 18 month old child's life. Have a new officer. Bob Hamberg, is taking over for recently retired officer Steve Ikeburg. There were no accidents on Christmas, New Years or Martin Luther King Day.

**Nevada Highway Patrol** – No report.

**Nevada Division of Transportation** - No report.

**Other Agencies** – No report.

## **TOWN ADVISORY BOARD COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS**

**Roads** – No report

**Public Response** – No report

**Kyle Canyon Water District** – No report

**Fire Protection District** – Meeting January 31, 2011 at 2pm at the library on Mt. Charleston.

**License Plate** – Pat Fitzgibbons and Curtis Alexander reported that round 3 of the \$150,000.00 is available for grants. Applications are available through Skip Canfield in Carson City. We are still working on a committee to change the wording in the License Plate Fund and have the monies either transfer to Mt. Charleston town board or the county commissioners to manage. When Curtis and Pat envisioned this there was an advisory panel of 7 people put together and the spent a lot of time planning what to do with the funds and somehow when it went to Carson City everything changed.

**CORRESPONDENCE** - None

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION** - None

**Set Next Meeting Date.** There is no Special Call meeting scheduled. The next regular meeting will be *Thursday, February 24, 2011.*

The meeting was adjourned.

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